



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of : H. W. Adams, Jr., et al : Group Art No.: 2175 Serial No. 09/421,139 : Examiner: S.Rimell Filed: June 18, 1997 : IBM Corporation by Anne Vachon Dougherty Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR 3173 Cedar Road INTERACTIVE READING Yorktown Heights, AND LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION New York 10598

## DECLARATION OF PRIOR INVENTION IN THE UNITED STATES TO OVERCOME CITED PATENT OR PUBLICATION (37CFR 1.131)

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

ME V.DOUGHERTY

## Sir:

- This declaration is to establish completion of the 1. invention in this application in the United States at a date prior to June 2, 1997, which is the earliest effective date of the prior art reference cited by the Examiner, U.S. Patent No. 5,920,838 of Mostow.
- The persons making this declaration are Hugh W. Adams, 2. Jr., Subrata Kumar Das, Peter G. Fairweather and Don H. Nix,

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the joint inventors of the subject matter of the patent application.

3. To establish the date of completion of the invention of this application, the following attached documents are submitted as evidence:

computer archive records showing archiving of program code for the inventive system and method; and

excerpts from source code embodying the inventive system and method.

From these documents, it can be seen that the invention in this application was made at least by the date June 2, 1997, which is a date earlier than the effective date of the cited reference.

- 4. This declaration is submitted prior to final rejection.
- 5. As a person signing below:

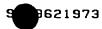
I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further

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that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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